

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A process for manufacturing a solar cell foil ~~comprising the steps of~~ the method comprising:

providing an etchable temporary substrate;

applying a front electrode of a transparent conductive oxide (TCO) onto the temporary substrate;

applying a photovoltaic layer onto the ~~TCO layer~~ TCO;

applying a ~~back electrode layer~~ back electrode;

applying a permanent carrier; and

ensuring that the front electrode and the back electrode are electrically connected in an interconnect to establish a series connection, the front and the back electrode each being interrupted by a front groove and a back groove, respectively, at different sides of the interconnect,

wherein in any one of the preceding ~~steps~~ steps,

applying an etch resist is provided located on a second side of the temporary substrate opposite to a first side of the temporary substrate ~~at least at the location of covering~~ the interconnect, and at least not at the entire location of the front groove, and

followed by selectively removing portions of the temporary substrate where it is not covered with the etch resist, to obtain ~~a solar cell foil~~ the solar cell foil provided with a protective cap on the TCO ~~at the location of the interconnect~~.

2. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 1, wherein ~~the step of~~ applying applying of the etch resist on the ~~non-TCO~~ second side of the temporary substrate is

performed directly before the ~~step of~~ selectively removing portions of the temporary substrate ~~where it is not covered with etch resist.~~

3. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 1, wherein the etch resist is a permanent etch resist.

4. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 3, wherein ~~the color~~ a color of the etch resist is selected such that the color of the etch resist matches or contrasts with ~~the color~~ a color of ~~the energy-generating~~ an energy-generating part of the solar cell unit.

5. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 1, wherein the etch resist is a temporary etch resist.

6. (Currently Amended) The process of ~~claim 1~~ claim 1, which is carried out in a roll-to-roll process.

7. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) A solar cell unit comprising a front electrode, a PV layer, and a back electrode layer, wherein the solar cell unit is divided into at least two individual cells connected in series, the series connection comprising an interconnect ~~which~~ that electrically connects ~~the front~~ a front electrode of one cell with ~~the back~~ a back electrode of an adjacent cell, while the front and the back electrode are each interrupted at different sides of the interconnect, in which the solar cell unit has a protective cap that is present on the front electrode ~~at the location of~~ covering the interconnect, with the protective cap being of a different material than the interconnect.

8. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) The solar cell unit of ~~claim 7~~ claim 7, which is a flexible solar cell foil suitable for handling in a roll-to roll process.

9. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 2, wherein the etch resist is a permanent etch resist.

10. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 2, wherein the etch resist is a temporary etch resist.

11. (Currently Amended) The process of ~~claim 2~~claim 2, which is carried out in a roll-to-roll process.

12. (Currently Amended) The process of ~~claim 3~~claim 3, which is carried out in a roll-to-roll process.

13. (Currently Amended) The process of ~~claim 4~~claim 4, which is carried out in a roll-to-roll process.

14. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) The process of ~~claim 5~~claim 5, which is carried out in a roll-to-roll ~~process.~~process.